

performance-linked funding of the Universities to improve quality of higher education. This suggestion is, infact, in line with the similar recommendations made by a Committee of the UGC appointed under the Chairmanship of Justice K. Punnayya. The Chairperson, UGC in her response, has broadly endorsed the idea. The details may, however, have to be worked out with reference to the provisions contained in the legislations governing the various Universities in the country.

[Translation]

Operation of Air Services in Joint Venture

1912. SHRI NAND KUMAR SAI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether in view of the Government's decision to

ban the operation of air services in the joint venture by the foreign airlines, the non resident Indians have shown interest to invest in the domestic aviation sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A statement showing the companies in which NRI equity has been approved is enclosed.

(c) In accordance with the existing policy, non-resident Indian (NRI)/Overseas Corporate Body (OCB) investment upto 100% is permissible in the domestic air transport services sector. The proposals for grant of permission to operate air transport services involving NRI participation are accordingly considered under the guidelines.

Statement

Companies in which Foreign/NRI Equity has been Approved

S.No.	Name of the Company	Percentage of Foreign/NRI equity	Remarks
1.	M/s. Jet Airways (India) Ltd. *	20% foreign equity by Gulf Air 20% foreign equity by Kuwait Air 60% NRI equity	A scheduled private operator
2.	M/s. Lufthansa Cargo India** Pvt. Ltd.	95% NRI/OCB equity (57% NRI by Hinduja Group) (38% by Lufthansa AG, Germany)	NOC holder for air Cargo Services
3.	TCG Aviation Pvt. Ltd.	100% NRI/OCB equity by TCG Aviation, Mauritius	Applicant for NOC to operate air Cargo Services
4.	Elbee Airlines	55.84% NRI/OCB by CSLB Aviation Holding (Mauritius) Ltd.	A non-scheduled air Cargo operator
5.	M/s Trans India Airlines Pvt. Ltd.	50% NRI/OCB equity	Already holds NOC to operate non-scheduled air services
6.	M/s Assured Airways Ltd.	50% NRI Investment by M/s Ajit Raghav and Associates	Already holds NOC to operate non-scheduled air services
7.	M/s Deccan Airlines	51% NRI equity investment	Has applied for NOC to operate scheduled air services.
8.	M/s. Maharashi International Business Development Ltd.	100% NRI equity investment	Has applied for NOC to operate non-scheduled air services.

* Equity from foreign airlines is to be disinvested within 6 months of the Cabinet decision prohibiting any investment of equity by foreign airlines in domestic airlines.

** The Company does not operate on domestic sectors.

[English]

Oil Schemes

1913. DR. RAMKRISHNA KUSMARIA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether various oil schemes and projects of

Madhya Pradesh are lying pending with the Union Government;

(b) if so, since when and the details thereof;

(c) the reasons for the delay; and

(d) the time by which these projects and schemes are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) The proposal of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited for setting up of a Marketing Terminal for Central India Oil Refinery at Bina is pending with the Government for approval. The estimated cost of the projects is Rs. 463.4 crores (September, 1996 prices). The project is expected to be completed in 36 months from the date of Government's approval.

[Translation]

Rajiv Gandhi Reservoir in M.P.

1914. SHRI PUNNU LAL MOHLE : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any scheme to siphon off water of Narmada River from Mandala in Madhya Pradesh to Rajiv Gandhi Reservoir;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred and the time likely to be taken for its completion;

(d) the time by which the sanction is likely to be accorded; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (e) Do not arise.

[English]

Magazine on Indian Rivers

1915. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government propose to publish a magazine on the Indian rivers and its preservation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) No, Sir. There is no such proposal.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) It is not considered necessary to publish such a Magazine.

Overhaul of MIG-29 Aircraft

1916. SHRI BHIMRAO VISHNUJI BADADE : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of MIG-29 aircraft of the Indian Air Force require major overhaul;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether as per the agreement, the overhaul was to be done by Russian Company;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Company has refused to overhaul these MIG aircrafts;

(f) If so, the facts thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(g) whether the Government are negotiating for the purchase of more MIG-29 from Russian Company, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) and (b) A MIG-29 falls due for major overhaul after 11 years or after it has flown 800 hours. The aircraft has been in service since 1986 and has now become due for overhaul.

(c) to (f) There is no contract with any Russian company or any other foreign agency to overhaul these aircraft. Facilities for overhaul of MIG-29 aircraft have been set up in India.

(g) There is at present, no proposal for purchase of any more MIG-29 aircraft.

Bifurcation of Air Corridor for Delhi

1917. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Airports Authority of India has bifurcated the air corridor falling on Delhi-Karachi sector; and

(b) when the new routing pattern would be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) From 14th August, 1997.

Winding up of I.R.C.C.

1918. SHRI CHITRASEN SINKU : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to wind up Indian Road Construction Corporation;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any complaints have been received in IRCC Project at Libya on Machinery and Equipment;

(d) if so, the details thereof and action taken thereon;

(e) the reasons for IRCC officers have been deputed instead of sending a Team of Senior Officers from MOST; and

(f) the reasons for not considering the bio-data of IRCC's employees in National Highways Authority of India received during 1996, if IRCC is wound up?